

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An optical communication system comprising:  
N, where N is an integer, optical channels;  
input means for inputting a single optical wavelength signal to each  
of said N optical channels;  
N optical amplifiers, with each of said N optical channels including  
one of said N optical amplifiers; and  
control means for operating each of said N optical amplifiers at a  
predetermined output power level.

2. - 46. (Cancelled.)